

HOUSE No. 1076

By Ms. Wolf of Cambridge, petition of Alice K. Wolf and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the effects of the comprehensive assessment system on students not receiving diplomas. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Alice K. Wolf	Anne M. Gobi
Glenn Koocher	Alice Hanlon Peisch
Patricia D. Jehlen	Joyce A. Spiliotis
Frank I. Smizik	Karen Spilka
John W. Scibak	Gloria L. Fox

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT
SYSTEM STUDY COMMISSION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 There is hereby established a special commission to study the
2 effects of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System
3 (MCAS) including, but not limited to, the matter of the adminis-
4 trations of multiple assessments, the MCAS appeals process, the
5 impact of MCAS on student drop-outs, the impact of MCAS on
6 teaching and learning and the progress of students who did not
7 receive diplomas since June, 2003 despite meeting local high
8 school graduation requirements. Said Commission shall consist
9 of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee
10 and three additional member to be appointed by the Speaker of the
11 House, the President of the Massachusetts Senate or his designee
12 and three other members to be appointed by the President of the
13 Senate, the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on
14 Education, Arts and Humanities, who shall both serve as chairs of

15 said commission, and one member appointed by the following
16 organizations: the Massachusetts Association of School Commit-
17 tees, the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents,
18 the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, the
19 Massachusetts Teachers Association and the Massachusetts Feder-
20 ation of Teachers. The Commission shall file a report with the
21 House and Senate Clerks and the Joint Committee on Education
22 Arts and Humanities not later than October 31, 2005, along with
23 any legislation necessary to put its recommendations into effect.